



California Postsecondary Education Commission
December 2006

California Higher Education Accountability

GOAL: Student Success
MEASURE: Time-to-Degree

Presented by Jessika Jones



Recap of Commission Actions Regarding Accountability

- In the fall of 2005, CPEC staff convened an Accountability Advisory Committee. Participating members of the committee included representatives from the public and private university systems, the community college system, the Department of Education, and education policy researchers
- The outcome of this advisory committee was agreement on four statewide goals and 17 corresponding performance measures.



The Goals:

- Does California foster reasonable and equitable opportunities for individuals to enter college prepared to succeed in higher education?
- Is California higher education affordable and accessible to all Californians?
- Are students succeeding in getting through college?
- Is California higher education making significant and lasting contributions to the State's economic, civic, and social development?



GOAL: Student Success

Are students succeeding in getting through college?

MEASURES:

- **Time-to-degree**
- Full-time to Part-time Ratio
- Student Persistence
- 4-year degrees conferred for transfer students
- CCC degrees and certificates awarded and successful transfer



Why Measuring Time-to-Degree is Important

- Time-to-degree can be an indicator of a number of issues, including:
 - **inadequate student preparation**
 - **cost issues that make college increasingly unaffordable**
 - **changing educational goals**
- Student progression through the system is an issue discussed in the Master Plan and, in addition, time-to-degree is a performance measure included in the Governor's Compact, used to determine efficiency in graduating students



Time-to-Degree

- Used CPEC database to calculate time-to-degree rates for UC and CSU by campus, ethnicity, and gender
- Measured using 4-year and 5-year graduation rates
- Fall 2000 first-time freshman, ages 17-19, who completed a full-time course schedule their first year



Data for UC

- The average four-year graduation rate is 46%;
 - Jumps to 65% for students who completed a full-time course load for freshman, sophomore, and junior years.
- The average five-year graduation rate is 79%;
 - Jumps to 89% for students who completed a full-time course load for freshman, sophomore, and junior years.
- Five-year graduation rates by ethnicity:
White = 80%, Asian = 79%, Latino = 72%, Black = 67%
- There is a five-point gender gap between males and females who graduate in five years:
Females = 81%, Males = 76%



Data for CSU

- The average four-year graduation rate is 16%;
 - Jumps to 29% for students who completed a full-time course load for freshman, sophomore, and junior years.
- The average five-year graduation rate is 39%;
 - Jumps to 61% for students who completed a full-time course load for freshman, sophomore, and junior years.
- Five-year graduation rates by ethnicity:
White = 47%, Asian = 38%, Latino = 33%, Black = 22%
- There is a five-point gender gap between males and females who graduate in five years:
Females = 47%, Males = 38%



Campuses with Highest Minority Student Graduation Rates

- Examined African American and Latino graduation rates of UC and CSU campuses where these populations were above the system means
- For the UC system, UCLA had the highest 5-year graduation rates for African American students and UCSB had the highest rates for Latino students
- For the CSU system, San Bernardino had the highest 5-year graduation rates for African American students and Stanislaus had the highest rates for Latino students.



In Conclusion

- California universities are stacking up favorably to comparable universities nationwide regarding time to degree
- We will continue the discussion of student success in the following two agenda items
- Questions?